

### Goal

Promote health and prevent secondary conditions among persons with disabilities, including eliminating disparities between persons with disabilities and the U.S. population.

### Overview

Data from the 2000 Census indicate that 24 percent of Kentucky's citizens are living with a physical, mental or sensory disability. This is almost twice the rate of the entire United States (12.5 percent). Disability is generally defined as having limitations in activities because of an impairment or health condition with a duration of at least 12 months. Activities impacted include those that negatively influence participation in work, school, leisure, and family and community life, from simple to complex, including looking and listening, standing, walking, achieving mobility, performing personal care, communicating, learning, and engaging in related behaviors.

The state is well served, however, by such organizations as the Developmental Disabilities Network, consisting of the Kentucky Developmental Disabilities Council, the Division of Protection and Advocacy and the University of Kentucky Interdisciplinary Human Development Institute. Projects of these agencies have focused on areas including: increasing access to community supports that will enable persons with disabilities to exercise greater autonomy in deciding where to live and how to spend their free time; training medical, allied health and nursing students in practical aspects of working with persons with disabilities of all ages; increasing access to public transportation services for persons with mobility limitations; improving special education services through areas such as instructional climate, use of assistive technology, training of para-educators, and improving secondary transition services; and, increasing the opportunities for employment among persons with disabilities.

While the population of Kentuckians with disabilities includes those with disabilities that are not developmental in nature, the most proactive disability organizations and agencies in the state (as well as the best data sources) are those focusing on developmental disabilities. The focus is on these types of disabilities for several reasons: 1) a large proportion of disabilities in the state are developmental; 2) many efforts that affect services for persons with developmental disabilities will have either a direct or indirect effect on those with other disabilities (e.g. transportation, employment); and 3) there is a great overlap in the needs of persons with developmental and other disabilities.

In Kentucky, as well as throughout the nation, large gaps are known to exist between individuals with and without disabilities in the areas of quality of life, access to and satisfaction with health care services, education, employment, and transportation. This chapter addresses the extent to which progress has been made in reducing these gaps during the first half of this decade.

## Summary of Progress

The HK 2010 objectives for disability and secondary conditions were originally written on the assumption that certain data sources would be developed to measure progress; however, these sources were not developed. Therefore, new objectives were developed based on data sources that address existing programs serving persons with disabilities. One original objective addressing the education of children with disabilities has been retained. Good improvement is shown for that objective, with 61 percent of students who have a disability spending 80 percent or more of their school day in a regular education environment, up from a 1997 baseline of 50 percent.

## Progress toward Achieving Each HK 2010 Objective

Summary of Objectives for Disability and Secondary Conditions	Baseline	HK 2010 Target	Mid-Decade Status	Progress	Data Source
19.1. - 19.2. (DELETED)					
19.3. Increase to 75 percent the proportion of children with disabilities included with appropriate supports in regular education programs.	50% (1997)	≥75%	61% (2004)	Yes	Special Education Data
19.4. (DELETED)					
19.5N. Ensure that 100 percent of persons with a developmental disability who receive services from the state receive a yearly physical examination.	85.3% (2000)	100%	89.5% (2004)	Yes	NCIS
19.6N. Ensure that 100 percent of women with a developmental disability who receive services from the state receive an annual gynecological examination.	53.3% (2000)	100%	61.2% (2004)	Yes	NCIS
19.7N. Ensure that 100 percent of persons with a developmental disability who receive services from the state receive a dental examination every six months.	61.2% (2000)	100%	45.3% (2004)	No	NCIS
19.8N. Ensure that 100 percent of persons with a developmental disability who receive services from the state report having access to adequate transportation.	81.6% (2000)	100%	81.7% (2004)	Yes	NCIS
19.9N. Ensure that 100 percent of persons with a developmental disability who receive services from the state report engaging in some form of exercise or sport.	72.1% (2000)	100%	74.5% (2004)	Yes	NCIS
19.10N. Increase the percentage of persons with a developmental disability that receive services from the state that report going to a club or community meeting.	30% (2002)	≥40%	25.9% (2004)	No	NCIS

N = New objective

## Progress toward Achieving Each HK 2010 Objective

Summary of Objectives for Disability and Secondary Conditions	Baseline	HK 2010 Target	Mid-Decade Status	Progress	Data Source
19.11N. Increase to 25 percent the number of public transportation vehicles that are accessible to persons with mobility limitations.	16% (1999)	≥25%	No data available	TBD	Repeat Human Service Transportation Delivery Program Brokers Survey
19.12N. Decrease the employment gap between persons with and without disabilities by 50 percent.	29.6% (2000)	≤14.8%	29.6% (2000)	N/A	2010 Census
19.13N. Decrease the median earnings gap between persons with and without disabilities by 50 percent.	13.5% (2000)	≤6.8%	13.5% (2000)	N/A	2010 Census
19.14N. Assure that a minimum level of at least 2.24 percent (the national percentage minimum) of Kentucky children ages 0-3 are eligible for and receive Part C services from the First Steps Program.	2.37% (2003)	≥2.24%	2.37% (2003)	N/A	First Steps Report

N = New objective

N/A = Only baseline data are available. Not able to determine progress at this time.

TBD = To be determined. No reliable data currently exist.